

[10191/2310] Block

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors

Jakoby BERNHARD et al.

Serial No.

10/098,650

Filed

March 15, 2002

For

MEASURING SYSTEM FOR A VISCOSITY

MEASUREMENT OF LIQUIDS

Examiner

Jay POLITZER

Art Unit

2856

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Signature:

Jong H. Lee

RULE 116 RESPONSE

SIR:

This Rule 116 Response addresses the final Office Action dated April 4, 2003, and it is respectfully submitted that this Response places the above-identified application in condition for allowance.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-11, and 13-19 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the document <u>Sensors and Actuators</u> by Martin et al. ("the Martin reference") in view of United States Patent No. 6,479,763 to Igaki et al. ("the Igaki reference") and further in view of United Kingdom Patent No. 2,342,445 to Buchanan et al. ("the Buchanan reference").

In rejecting a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner bears the initial burden of presenting a <u>prima facie</u> case of obviousness. <u>In re Rijckaert</u>, 9 F.3d 1531, 1532,

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